

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. Applicant has rewritten claims 1, 5-12, 17 and 20, and canceled claim 4. Favorable reconsideration of this application is, consequently, earnestly solicited in view of the following remarks. Applicant gratefully appreciates the examiners indication that claims 4-20 contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 1, 6, 11, 12, 17 and 20 were objected to for several informalities. The claims have been accordingly amended. Thus, removal of this objection is requested.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under sec. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The claims have been accordingly amended. Thus, removal of this rejection is requested.

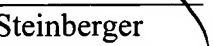
Claim 1 was rejected under sec. 102e over MacKinnon '691. Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of former dependent claim 4. Thus, removal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 2-3 were rejected under sec. 103 over MacKinnon '691. Again, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of former dependent claim 4. Thus, removal of this rejection is requested.

Applicant contends the references cannot be modified to incorporate the features of subject claims 1-3 and 5-20 without utilizing Applicant's disclosure. The courts have consistently held that obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to Applicant to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching, suggestion, incentive or motivation supporting the combination.

In view of the foregoing considerations, it is respectfully urged that claims 1-3 and 5-20 be allowed. Such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to contact the attorney at the below listed number.

Respectfully Submitted;


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